

## PATENT CLAIMS

1. A packaging machine with at least one working station (2,7,10) which exhibits an upper tool (3,8,12) and a vertically displaceable lower tool (4,9,11), characterised in that the lower tool (4,9,11) exhibits several lifting devices (50) arranged parallel to one another and/or a lifting device exhibits at least three lifting shafts (65a, 65b, 65c).
2. The packaging machine according to claim 1, characterised in that the lifting devices (50) are identical in design.
3. The packaging machine according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the lifting devices can be driven independently of one another.
4. The packaging machine according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the lifting devices (50) can be controlled from a control unit.
5. The packaging machine according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that a lifting device exhibits two drive means (68).
6. The packaging machine according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that each drive means interacts in each case with at least two lifting shafts (65 a-c).
7. The packaging machine according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the drive means (68) operate in opposed directions.